

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168197

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PINT, SREF, WA, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA

REF: BONN 11933

1. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO YOUR POLICY-LEVEL CONTACTS  
THAT IN OUR VIEW, ANY LEAK TO PRESS ABOUT FRG CONTINGENCY  
PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE EVACUATION OF ETHNIC GERMANS FROM  
NAMIBIA COULD HAVE AN UNFORTUNATE EFFECT BOTH ON OUR CURRENT  
NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS AND ON PROSPECTS FOR AN INDEPENDENT,  
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ECONOMICALLY VIABLE NAMIBIA.

2. CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ASSUME THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO  
CREATE AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA WHICH CAN BUILD ON BOTH ITS  
PRESENT ECONOMIC STRUCTURE AND THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF A  
RELATIVELY WELL EDUCATED AND TECHNICALLY COMPETENT EUROPEAN  
POPULATION. DEPARTURE OF EUROPEANS FROM NAMIBIA ON A SCALE  
APPROACHING THAT OF EARLIER PORTUGUESE EXODUS FROM ANGOLA  
WOULD BE AN ECONOMIC DISASTER FOR NAMIBIA, AND WOULD HELP  
OPEN DOOR IN NAMIBIA TO CUBAN/SOVIET PRESENCE. IT WOULD BE  
IRONIC IF THE GERMANS BEGAN TO DISCUSS SUCH A PROSPECT JUST

AT THE TIME WHEN THE ANGOLANS SEEM READY TO WELCOME A  
SIZEABLE NUMBER OF PORTUGUESE BACK TO ANGOLA. WHILE WE ARE  
NOT WELL INFORMED ABOUT THINKING OF SWAPO LEADERS, WE DOUBT  
THEY FORESEE A SIZEABLE WHITE EXODUS FROM NAMIBIA.  
(EUROPEAN POPULATION IN NAMIBIA REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLY  
LARGER MINORITY--PERHAPS ONE-EIGHTH OF POPULATION--THAN  
WAS THE CASE IN ANGOLA OR SHABA.)

3. IT WOULD ALSO BE BAD NEGOTIATING TACTICS ON THE PART  
OF ANY OF THE WESTERN FIVE TO ENCOURAGE SUSPICION AMONG  
WHITE NAMIBIANS OR SOUTH AFRICANS THAT WHAT WE ARE REALLY  
CONTEMPLATING IS NOT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT BUT  
"ANOTHER ANGOLA".

4. WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT OUR EFFORTS MAY  
FAIL AND THAT IN THE END, SOME PORTION OF THE PRESENT  
ETHNIC GERMAN POPULATION MAY LEAVE NAMIBIA, EITHER SLOWLY  
OR PRECIPITOUSLY. FOR NOW, HOWEVER, THE GERMANS MIGHT  
CONCENTRATE INSTEAD ON WHAT SEEM GOOD PROSPECTS FOR MAIN-  
TAINING A NOT INCONSIDERABLE PRESENCE IN THEIR FORMER  
COLONY, SIX DECADES AFTER THEY LOST CONTROL. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 26 sep 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CAT-B, NEWS LEAKS, CONTINGENCY PLANNING, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE TALKS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Draft Date:** 03 jul 1978  
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**Message ID:** 906d566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Subject:** GERMAN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PINT, SREF, WA, GE, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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